

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-89 (canceled)

90. (Currently Amended) A method of wrapping a load with packaging material, comprising:

providing a load on a load transport surface;

providing at least one magazine containing unformed cornerboards;

removing a cornerboard from within the magazine with a gripper;

folding the cornerboard with the gripper;

transporting the cornerboard to a corner of the load with the gripper subsequent to folding the cornerboard;

dispensing packaging material from a packaging material dispenser; and

moving the packaging material dispenser and the load relative to one another to wrap the packaging material around the cornerboard and load.

91. Canceled

92. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 90 ~~94~~, wherein gripping the cornerboard with ~~a~~ the gripper includes applying a vacuum to the cornerboard.

93. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 90, wherein folding the cornerboard includes actuating a clamp to hold a portion of the cornerboard stationary as another portion of the cornerboard is moved relative to the clamp with the gripper,

thereby folding the cornerboard ~~move into contact with at least a portion of the cornerboard.~~

94. (Original) The method of claim 93, wherein the clamp is moved into contact with a portion of the cornerboard having scoring or perforations.

95. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 93, wherein folding the cornerboard further includes moving ~~a~~ the gripper holding the cornerboard from a flat position to a folded position.

96. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~90~~ 94, wherein folding the cornerboard includes moving the gripper from a flat position to a folded position.

97. (Original) The method of claim 90, wherein transporting the cornerboard includes moving the cornerboard in a direction parallel to a longitudinal axis of the load transport surface until a first leg of the cornerboard is proximate a first side of a corner of the load.

98. (Original) The method of claim 97, wherein transporting the cornerboard further includes moving the cornerboard in a direction transverse to the longitudinal axis of the load transport surface until a second leg of the cornerboard is proximate a second side of the corner of the load.

99. (Original) The method of claim 90, wherein providing the load includes moving the load on a conveyor.

100. (Original) The method of claim 90, further comprising rotating the cornerboard approximately 180 degrees prior to transporting.

101. (Original) The method of claim 98, wherein moving the cornerboard in a direction parallel to the longitudinal axis of the load transport surface includes actuating a first drive.

102. (Original) The method of claim 97, wherein moving the cornerboard in a direction parallel to the longitudinal axis of the load transport surface includes sensing the first side of the load.

103. (Original) The method of claim 101, wherein moving the cornerboard in a direction perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the load transport surface includes actuating a second drive.

104. (Original) The method of claim 98, wherein moving the cornerboard in a direction perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the load transport surface includes sensing the second side of the load.

105. (Original) A method of wrapping a load with packaging material, comprising:

providing a load on a load transport surface;

holding an unformed cornerboard with a gripper;

folding the unformed cornerboard with the gripper;

transporting the folded cornerboard with the gripper in a direction parallel to a longitudinal axis of the load transport surface until a first leg of the cornerboard is proximate a first side of a corner of the load;

transporting the folded cornerboard with the gripper in a direction transverse to the longitudinal axis of the load transport surface until a second leg of the cornerboard is proximate a second side of the corner of the load;

dispensing packaging material from a packaging material dispenser; and
wrapping the packaging material around the cornerboard and load.

106. (Original) The method of claim 105, wherein folding the unformed cornerboard includes moving the gripper from a flat position to a folded position.

107. (Original) The method of claim 106, wherein moving the gripper includes rotating a first wall portion of the gripper with respect to a second wall portion of the gripper such that the wall portions form an angle of about 90 degrees.

108. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 106, wherein folding the unformed cornerboard further comprises actuating a clamp to hold a portion of the cornerboard stationary as another portion of the cornerboard is moved relative to the clamp with the gripper, thereby folding the cornerboard ~~move into contact with the cornerboard.~~

109. (Original) The method of claim 108, wherein the clamp contacts the unformed cornerboard at a portion of the cornerboard having scoring or perforations.

Claims 110-201 (Canceled)

202. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 206 ~~495~~, further comprising a load transport surface having a longitudinal axis.

203. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 202, wherein the ~~means for transporting the cornerboard includes a gripper~~ is movable in a first direction perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the load transport surface.

204. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 203, ~~wherein the means for transporting the cornerboard~~ further comprising ~~includes~~ a transport arm

supporting the gripper and movable in a second direction parallel to the longitudinal axis of the load transport surface.

205. (Original) A method of wrapping a load with packaging material, comprising:

providing at least one magazine containing cornerboards;

moving a gripper and an unformed cornerboard out of a magazine for storing unformed cornerboards;

folding the unformed cornerboard;

transporting folded cornerboard to a corner of the load with the gripper;

dispensing packaging material from a packaging material dispenser; and

providing relative movement between the packaging material dispenser and the load to wrap the packaging material around the cornerboard and load.

206. (New) An apparatus for wrapping a load with packaging material, comprising:

a packaging material dispenser for dispensing packaging material;

at least one magazine for containing unformed cornerboards;

a cornerboard gripper having first and second wall portions connected by a hinge, the first and second wall portions being movable between a flat position and a folded position, the cornerboard gripper being configured to fold an unformed cornerboard and transport the folded cornerboard to a position proximate a corner of the load;

a first drive for moving the first and second wall portions of the gripper between the flat position and the folded position to fold the unformed cornerboard;

a clamp movable between a retracted position and an extended position;

a second drive for moving the clamp between the retracted position and the extended position, wherein the unformed cornerboard is between the gripper and the clamp when the clamp is in the extended position; and

means for wrapping the packaging material around the cornerboard and load.